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Where terrorism is rooted

JOHN LOFTON

President Reagan's national security adviser, Robert McFarlane, is talking about striking at the "root sources" of terrorism, the places where terrorists are "trained, housed, and fed." He says there are two or three such strategic locations in the Middle East.

When asked on the "CBS Morning News" if the Soviet Union had any role in the recent hijacking of TWA Flight 847, Mr. MacFarlane said there is "no basis" for believing this. He said the Soviet's accusation that the United States is responsible for creating the climate that led to this act of terrorism "was not all that impressive," it "wasn't all that helpful."

Well, now. If ever there was a softball response to a question demanding a hardball answer, this wimpy reply is it: because the Soviets have a long history of support for international terrorism, which is documented in detail by the late Roberta Goren in her book *The Soviet Union and Terrorism*, (George Allen and Unwin, 1984). For example:

• Both Marx and Lenin made explicitly clear statements regarding the applicability of terrorism to achieve political ends. In *Das Kapital*, Marx wrote that "force is the midwife of every old society pregnant with a new one." He vehemently blamed the French communards of 1871 for not having imitated the Jacobins in their use of terrorist methods, observing that "violence is itself an economic power." And Marx said that "revolutionary terrorism" was the only means to kill the old society and give birth to the new society.

Lenin, who said in his *Selected Works, Volume Two* that "we have never rejected terrorism on principle, nor can we do so," also advocated, to kill policemen, "the use of every conceivable weapon, from rifles and bombs to knuckle-dusters and boiling water." Leon Trotsky said that "the revolution" required the use of all methods at its disposal including "if required, terrorism."

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• Training camps for terrorists, in such Soviet cities as Tashkent, were set up as early as 1919-20 and were precursors of modern Soviet training camps for terrorists. In testimony before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Soviet defector Alexander Orlov named a Mr. Konev, who was to become marshal of the Soviet Union, as having trained terrorists in Spain.

• In the 1930s in Uruguay and Brazil, with remarkable similarity to recent events in Central and South America, the Soviets were also involved in terrorism. On Dec. 27, 1935, Uruguay severed diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union because of hard evidence the Soviets were involved in certain seditious movements which led to an outbreak of violence in Brazil. This violence was apparently instigated and financed by the Soviets through the Soviet legation in Montevideo.

• When Gen. Jan Sejna of Czechoslovakia's military intelligence defected during the Prague Spring of 1968, the files he took with him — covering more than 20 years of intelligence knowledge — documented a Soviet Politburo decision, in 1964, to the effect that spending for terrorist enterprises should be increased dramatically.

• In the Kremlin's attempt to penetrate the Middle East, the Palestinian Liberation Organization was formed as "the fulcrum of the Soviet Union's strategic approach," and it was to emerge "as a terrorist organization above all others, the initiator of the terrorist recrudescence which was to plague Western democratic societies from the late 1960s on, and the central coordinator of logistical and material support to a vast network of terrorist groups worldwide." The PLO has long been involved in terrorism in Latin America, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.

The Sandinistas were trained in Cuba and by the PLO. In August 1979, the European representative of the Sandinistas, Jorge Mundi, spoke of these ties, saying: "We have long had close relations with the Palestinians. Many of the units belonging to the Sandinista movement were at Palestinian bases in Jordan. In the early 1970s, Nicaraguan and Palestinian blood was spilled together in Amman and in other places during the Black September (a terrorist group) battles ... It is natural, therefore, that during our war against Somoza we received Palestinian support for our revolution in various forms."

From 1974 on, official meetings between PLO leader Yasser Arafat and Soviet leaders became more frequent, and the continued practice of exonerating the PLO from any ter-

rorist involvement was featured widely in Soviet propaganda efforts.

• According to Tel Aviv University's *Middle East Record*, the Soviets established a school for sabotage in Prague, Czechoslovakia, specifically for training Fatah (a terrorist group) men. This course, taught by Russian and East German instructors, lasted six weeks, after which men were transferred to a camp in Kosice, Slovakia, where they stayed for 4½ months.

• Apart from actual KGB and GRU involvement in terrorism, there have been mainly five vehicles which have operated for the Kremlin: terrorists "Carlos," Henri Curiel, and Giangiacomo Feltrinelli; the PCF (a French Communist party); the PCI (an Italian Communist party); and the PLO.

• And, in Africa, the African National Congress — whose logistic support is the Soviet Embassy in Zambia — is believed to be coordinated by the KGB. In 1980, a high-ranking KGB officer, Alexei Kozlov, was arrested in South Africa, where he confirmed his job was to monitor the performance of ANC terrorists. In 1981, after more than two weeks of silence on the question, the Soviets reluctantly admitted that two of their advisers had been killed and one officer captured by South African forces in a raid on Angolan guerrilla bases, from which terrorist activity was carried out in Southwest Africa.

So, when and if we strike back against the "root sources" of terrorism — those who train, house, and feed these murderers — will this mean sanctions against the Soviets? Not bloody likely, I'd say. In fact, President Reagan has agreed to meet and negotiate with the Soviet's head terrorist, Mikhail Gorbachev, this November in Geneva. And he's still feeding these thugs. On a recent trip to Moscow, Undersecretary of Agriculture Daniel Amstutz agreed to resume agricultural cooperation between our two nations, a relationship which was broken off after the Red Army invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

No wonder the world doesn't take President Reagan seriously when he talks tough about international terrorism.

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